

**Mansfield Board of Education Meeting
September 11, 2008
Minutes**

Attendees: Mary Feathers, Chair, Martha Kelly, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin
Absent: Shamim Patwa, Chris Kueffner

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Ms Feathers, Chair.

Ms Feathers asked to move the first item on the Superintendent's Report the beginning of the meeting.

- New Certified Staff: The building principals introduced the new teachers for the 2008-2009 school year.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: None

ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT AGENDA: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms Feathers reported that the Chairs of the Board of Education from Ashford, Mansfield, Region 19, and Willington met.

Ms Feathers reported that the Building Committee will host a public workshop on Wednesday, September 17th in the Mansfield Middle School Cafeteria at 7:00pm. This workshop will focus on presenting a series of options for consideration by the community.

Mr. LaPlaca reported that the personnel committee would like an Executive Session to discuss negotiations with the Mansfield Administrator's Association.

Mr. Hamlin reported that the policy committee met with Attorney Anne Littlefield to discuss policy changes recommended by Shipman and Goodwin. A summary of proposed changes was included in the Board packet for review and he will ask for a motion for adoption at the October 16, 2008 meeting.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

- Budget Overview: Cherie Trahan, Comptroller and Treasurer, Town of Mansfield, discussed what makes a high quality budget and reviewed the eight sections of the budget book and discussed the significance of each.
- Additional 2008-2009 Budget Reductions: **MOTION** by Dr. Bent, seconded Mr. LaPlaca to accept the Budget Reductions of \$155,825 as outlined by Mr. Baruzzi in his memo dated September 4, 2008. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

- Board Summer Retreat Review/Next Steps: Mr. Baruzzi asked the Board to review the notes from the facilitator, George Goens and the impact on future meeting during the 08-09 school year.
- Board Fall Retreat with Administrators: The Board and Administrators will participate in a retreat facilitated by George Goens on Thursday, September 25, 2008. Agenda will include reading and mathematics goals, budget, school building, and special education.
- *Bridges in Mathematics* – Year One: Mr. Baruzzi discussed the implementation plan for the first year of *Bridges in Mathematics*.
- School Energy Committee, 2008-2009: Energy Committees are being formed at each school building to include staff, students, parents, and community members.
- Update on World Language – Quebec Trip and German Exchange: **MOTION** by Mr. Hamlin, seconded Mr. LaPlaca to endorse and support the Mansfield Middle School trips to Germany and Quebec. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.
- Class Size/Enrollment: The principals reviewed their enrollment at each school. 82% of classes are within class size guidelines. Principals will continue to monitor enrollment.

NEW BUSINESS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: **MOTION** by Dr. Bent, seconded Mr. LaPlaca that the following items for the Board of Education meeting of September 11, 2008 be approved or received for the record:

The following items for the Board of Education Meeting of September 11, 2008 be approved or received for the record, unless removed by a Board member or the Superintendent of Schools.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the June 12, 2008 Board meeting.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the June 27, 2008 Board meeting.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the 2008-09 District Consolidated Application for ESEA Federal Grants.

That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the employment of Melissa DeLoreto, Academic Support Teacher and Janine Elliott, 6th grade Science and Reading teacher and William Vanderrest, 7th grade Mathematics teacher at Mansfield Middle School.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

HEARING FOR VISITORS: NONE

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: **MOTION** by Dr. Bent, seconded Ms Lin to move into Executive Session at 9:30pm. to discuss collective bargaining contract negotiations. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Dr. Bent, seconded by Mrs. Paulhus to return to open session at 10:15pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

MOTION by Dr. Bent, seconded by Ms Lin to ratify the Mansfield Administrators Association 2009-2012 contract. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Mrs. Paulhus left at 10: 20pm.

MOTION by Dr. Bent, seconded by Ms Lin to approve a 3% gross wage increase retroactive to July 1, 2008 for the Director of Information Technology. **VOTE:** Mr. Hamlin, Dr. Bent, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. LaPlaca in favor; Ms Lin opposed.

MOTION by Dr. Bent, seconded by Mr. Hamlin to adjourn at 10:30pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk